

REMARKS

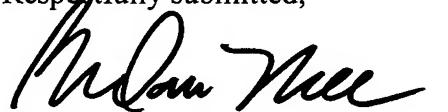
Claims 1-4 and 6-28 are presented for examination. All of the claims have been amended to prevent improper multiple dependencies, and to otherwise place the claims in better condition for examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. No new matter has been added.

Note that the international application was originally filed with 27 claims. Claims 28 and "New Claim 28" were added during the international stage. No changes to Claims 1-27 were made in the international stage. To prevent ambiguity, the foregoing Preliminary Amendment shows the changes with respect to the English language translation of the international application as filed. Accordingly, the translated Annex to the International Preliminary Report on Patentability should not be entered as an amendment.

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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